10/586,917

Amendment Dated:

November 13, 2009 Reply to Office Action of: August 28, 2009

MAT-8880US

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of delivering frozen products comprising:

storing frozen products in a cold-insulating container; the cold-insulating container including a plurality of individual cold insulating panels, each of said panels including a solid heat insulating material and a gas impermeable jacket around the solid heat insulating material, wherein a partial vacuum is between the solid heat insulating material and the gas-impermeable jacket; and

the cold-insulating container comprising:

a collapsible cold-insulating container comprising four peripheral walls, a bottom face and a flexible rectangle bottom face sheet, the container forming a box with respective members, and being collapsible with each member overlapping with one another, while the four peripheral walls, the bottom face and the bottom face sheet being connected with each other,

## wherein

the four peripheral walls are connected into a square shape so as to be foldable one another,

the bottom face are connected to the peripheral walls along lower side edges of the walls, so as to be foldable into inward of the walls,

the bottom face is formed enveloping a vacuum heat-insulating material therein, and

10/586,917

Amendment Dated:

November 13, 2009

Reply to Office Action of: August 28, 2009

the bottom face sheet is attached to the four peripheral walls along lower side edges of the walls with its four sides, so as to cover entire outer surface of the bottom face, when the bottom face is turned into a close position to form the box,

MAT-8880US

loading the cold-insulating container in a vehicle that is maintained at a temperature <u>higher than above</u>-a freezing temperature of the frozen products.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein the vacuum heat-insulating cold-insulating container includes a plurality of individual cold-insulating panels, each of the panels including a heat insulating material that is structured so that a core material made by compression-molding a fiber material is covered with a gas-barrier jacket material, and an inside covered with the jacket material is depressurized for vacuum encapsulation.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein the vacuum heat-insulating cold-insulating container includes a plurality of individual cold-insulating panels, each of the panels including a heat insulating material has a thickness ranging from 2 to 20 mm inclusive.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein the vacuum heat-insulating cold-insulating container includes a plurality of individual cold-insulating panels, each of the panels including a heat insulating material has an initial thermal conductivity up to 0.01 W/mK.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein the cold-insulating container is capable of housing frozen products at least at a predetermined percentage with respect to an internal capacity thereof, and maintaining an inside temperature thereof up to 0 °C at least for two hours.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein a cold-storage agent is housed in the cold-insulating container in an amount according to time taken for delivery.

10/586,917

Amendment Dated:

November 13, 2009

Reply to Office Action of: August 28, 2009

7. (Previously Presented) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein a cold-storage agent having a melting point ranging from -27 to -18 °C inclusive is housed in the cold-insulating container.

MAT-8880US

- 8. (Previously Presented) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein the cold-insulating container is capable of housing at least 1kg of the cold storage agent per internal capacity of 50 I, and maintaining an average inside temperature up to 0 °C for at least 10 hours.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein the cold-insulating container has an internal capacity of at least 70 I.
- 10. (Previously Presented) The method of delivering frozen products of claim 1, wherein a protective case for housing the cold-insulating container is provided, and the frozen products are delivered while the cold-insulating container is housed in the protective case.

## 11.-33. (Cancelled).

34. (New) A collapsible cold-insulating container comprising four peripheral walls, a bottom face and a flexible rectangle bottom face sheet, the container forming a box with respective members, and being collapsible with each member overlapping with one another, while the four peripheral walls, the bottom face and the bottom face sheet being connected with each other,

wherein

the four peripheral walls are connected into a square shape so as to be foldable one another,

the bottom face are connected to the peripheral walls along lower side edges of the walls, so as to be foldable inwardly,

the bottom face is formed with a vacuum heat-insulating material enveloped therein, and

Amendment Dated: November 13, 2009
Reply to Office Action of: August 28, 2009

the bottom face sheet is attached to the four peripheral walls along lower side edges of the peripheral walls with its four sides, so as to cover entire outer surface of the bottom face, when the bottom face is turned into a close position to form the box.

35. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 34 wherein two opposite peripheral walls adjacent to the peripheral walls connected to the bottom face have folding lines extending along height direction at middle portions thereof, and are made foldable along the folding lines, and

when the box is collapsed, the bottom face is folded into inward of the peripheral walls, the foldable walls are folded inwardly along the folding line to make the adjacent peripheral walls to approximate with each other, and the peripheral walls and the bottom face overlap with each other.

36. (New) A collapsible cold-insulating container comprising four peripheral walls, two bottom faces and a flexible rectangle bottom face sheet, the container forming a box with respective members, and being collapsible with each member overlapping with one another, while the four peripheral walls, the bottom face and the bottom face sheet being connected with each other,

wherein

the four peripheral walls are connected into a square shape so as to be foldable one another,

the two bottom faces are connected to two opposite peripheral walls along lower side edges of the two opposite peripheral walls, so as to be foldable inwardly,

the bottom face is formed with a vacuum heat-insulating material enveloped therein, and

the bottom face sheet is attached to the four peripheral walls along lower side edges of the walls with its four sides, so as to cover entire outer surface of the two bottom faces, when the two bottom faces are turned into a close position to form the box.

10/586,917

Amendment Dated:

November 13, 2009

Reply to Office Action of: August 28, 2009

37. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 36 further comprising:

MAT-8880US

a flexible engaging flap including hook-and-loop fastener disposed along a side

edge of one of the bottom faces engaging with another bottom face, and

a hook-and-loop fastener disposed on the another bottom face at a portion

corresponding to the engaging flap,

wherein turning the two bottom faces into a closed position matches side edges

of both bottom faces and brings the engaging flap on the one bottom face into contact

with the another bottom face to engage both hook-and-loop fasteners with each other.

38. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 36, wherein two opposite

peripheral walls adjacent to the peripheral walls connected to the bottom faces have

folding lines extending along height direction at middle portions thereof, and are made

foldable along the folding lines, and

when the box is collapsed, the bottom faces are folded into inward of the

peripheral walls, the foldable walls are folded inwardly along the folding line to make

the adjacent peripheral walls to approximate with each other, and the peripheral walls

and the bottom face overlap with each other.

39. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 35, further comprising a

foldable lid connected along an upper edge of the peripheral wall adjacent to the

foldable peripheral wall that is foldable along the folding line, wherein the container

forms a box, and collapses to be overlapped while the lid is connected to the

peripheral wall.

40. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 35, further comprising a

foldable two lids connected along upper edges of the two peripheral walls that are

connected to the bottom face, wherein the container forms a box, and collapses to be

overlapped while the lids are connected to the peripheral wall.

41. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 40 further comprising:

Page 6 of 11

10/586,917

Amendment Dated:

November 13, 2009

Reply to Office Action of: August 28, 2009

a flexible engaging flap including a flexible hook-and-loop fastener disposed along a side edge of one of the lids engaging with another lid; and

MAT-8880US

a hook-and-loop fastener disposed on the another lid at a portion corresponding to the engaging flap,

wherein turning the two lids into a closed position matches side edges of both lids and brings the engaging flap on the one lid into contact with the other lid to engage both hook-and-loop fasteners each other.

42. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 40 further comprising:

a flexible engaging flap including a hook-and-loop fastener disposed along an upper side edge of each of the two foldable peripheral walls so that the engaging flap is urged upwardly rather than laterally; and

a hook-and-loop fastener disposed on each of the two lids at a portion corresponding to the hook-and-loop fastener on the engaging flap,

wherein, when the two lids are turned into a closed position, the lids depress the engaging flaps and make contact therewith so that the hook-and-loop fasteners and corresponding ones engage with each other.

- 43. The cold-insulating container of claim 38 wherein the lid is formed with vacuum heat-insulating material enveloped therein.
- 44. The cold-insulating container of claim 34 wherein the four peripheral walls are formed with vacuum heat-insulating material enveloped therein.
- 45. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 34 wherein the bottom face sheet is made of water-proof materials.
- (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 37, wherein two opposite peripheral walls adjacent to the peripheral walls connected to the bottom faces have folding lines extending along height direction at middle portions thereof, and are made foldable along the folding lines, and

Application No.: 10/586,917 MAT-8880US

Amendment Dated: November 13, 2009 Reply to Office Action of: August 28, 2009

when the box is collapsed, the bottom faces are folded into inward of the peripheral walls, the foldable walls are folded inwardly along the folding line to make the adjacent peripheral walls to approximate with each other, and the peripheral walls and the bottom face overlap with each other.

47. (New) The cold-insulating container of claim 41 further comprising:

a flexible engaging flap including a hook-and-loop fastener disposed along an upper side edge of each of the two foldable peripheral walls so that the engaging flap is urged upwardly rather than laterally; and

a hook-and-loop fastener disposed on each of the two lids at a portion corresponding to the hook-and-loop fastener on the engaging flap,

wherein, when the two lids are turned into a closed position, the lids depress the engaging flaps and make contact therewith so that the hook-and-loop fasteners and corresponding ones engage with each other.